


Congressman Matsui
February 21, 1980
Page Two

FBI through budget cuts. I strongly urge you to support the FBI in its new efforts, and, if anything, support an increase in the FBI's budget for investigation of organized crime and corruption cases.

Sincerely,



b-6

cc to the Honorable William Webster, Director of the Federal
Bureau of Investigations



WILLIAM K. STOVER
CHIEF OF POLICE

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

3) 2100 15TH STREET, NORTH
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201
4) PHONE (703) 558-2222

Exec AD Inv.	___
Exec AD Adm.	___
Exec AD LES	___
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	___
Crim. Inv.	___
Ident.	___
Intell.	___
Laboratory	___
Legal Coun.	___
Plan. & Insp.	___
Rec. Mgnt.	___
Tech. Servs.	___
Training	___
Public Affs. Off.	___
Telephone Rm.	___
Director's Sec'y	___

FBI/DOJ

February 21, 1980

Honorable William H. Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

*RETURN RESPONSE
RE ABSCAM*

Dear Judge Webster:

Recently, I have read and heard many comments relative the recent ABSCAM Operation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It appears that certain members of Congress are supportive of a House and Senate investigation of bribery allegations against eight congressmen. Again, public officials are trying to use their position of public trust for the purposes of discovering the evidence and to restrict the future investigative function of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

For many years, we have heard of the vast corruption that exists between organized labor, members of Congress, and organized crime figures. The recent investigation by your agency proves this point beyond a doubt.

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your outstanding performance, as well as members of your staff, and the men and women of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in their investigation of matters which are so vital to our survival as a nation.

Sincerely,

William K. Stover

- 1) William K. Stover
- 2) Chief of Police

114 NA

47080
11 FEB 22 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

3 Dear Chief

*EXP. PROC.
#2*

OML

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Missouri

February 21, 1980

Hon. William H. Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Judge:

Public Response Re Abscam

Stay after those politicians. I just wish that Rep. John Seiberling lived in my district; however, I will write my two ("hen house") senators asking that they support your actions.

I could have started this letter "Dear Director" but I feel that once a man has attained the title of "Judge," all other titles are of no consequence. Judge, I am a 25 year police officer with the City of [redacted] Missouri and I can tell you all of the policemen and citizens in this area that I have talked to are behind you and your men one hundred percent. I also work with some of your special agents and I can tell you that their morale is much, much higher under your direction than under Hoover. If you will keep kicking the big boys' backsides, it will make the work of the municipal cops much easier and we can spend more time on preventive police work like we should be doing instead of this catch-up police work we have been doing for the last fifty years (as you know when we are playing catch-up the citizens are suffering)

Well, Judge, I will be watching your progress with great expectation and just give me a holler if I can be of any help to you or your bureau.

Respectfully,

63-17561-132

EXP. PROC.

40 FEB 25 1980 #20 4/29/80

b-6

4-29-80
7 FEB 25 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

photostat

Exec. AD-Inv. _____
 Exec. AD-Adm. _____
 Exec. AD-LES _____
 Asst. Dir.: _____
 Adm. Servs. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Laboratory _____
 Legal Coun. _____
 Plan. & Insp. _____
 Rec. Mgnt. _____
 Tech. Servs. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

Washingtons Birthday Feb. 22, 1980

Public Response Re

Mr. William Webster
 Director of F.B.I.
 Washington D. C.

Abscam

Dear Mr. Webster,

This is to let you know that I very much approve of Abscam, it is brilliant work inn plan, action, and completion, you deserve much praise.

It is very difficult for me to understand, objections now being heard, that those who weakened by being tempted would not have done wrong, what nonsense, the proof is right there they did.

How else can something like that be proven.

I was a great admirer of Mr. Edgar Hoover, for many years, it does one good to know the F B I 's always great concern for wrong doing is ever strong.

Sincerely yours,

(1) [Redacted]
 (2) [Redacted]
 (3) [Redacted] New York. [Redacted]

EXP. PROC. # 28
 28 FEB 28 1980

*Ack
 2/21/80
 NB: lmb*

63-17561-134

4/17/80
 FEB 28 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

93

140/alt

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

K

[Redacted]
 [Redacted] Michigan [Redacted]
 Public Response *ADSCAM*
 Hooray for your stings,
 Keep up the good
 work !! "Nuff sed"
 [Redacted]
 (illegible)

(Q)

EXP. PROC.
 50 FEB 28 1980
 #410

63-17564-136

Ack
 3/31/80
 60 MAY 28 1980

4/1/80
 FEB 28 1980

Pro/ir

S/S

ml

Public Response

Re ABSCAM OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Mr. William Webster

I'd like to applaud you on your fantastic success. It's about time those phony congressmen were caught and due to your outstanding work in the FBI, you really clobbered them. I don't think I've ever seen a more brilliant display of absolute skill. Now those shameful men are hopefully suffering a little and maybe everyone else will think twice before getting involved in illegal affairs. I only wish I could personally have the great honor of shaking your hand.

Most Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

ack
3/3/80
76/100

60 MAY 28 1980

Exec AD Adm.	_____
Exec AD Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Insp.	_____
Intell.	_____
Lab.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Serv.	_____
Training	_____
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

EXP. PROC.
NO. FEB 22 1980 #140

65-17531-138
4/10/80
23 FEB 22 1980

[Redacted Box] MA

3

Public Response re
OUTSIDE SOURCE

abscon

Dear District Attorney.

You are receiving a good deal of criticism from Congress and the News media about your investigation of White Collar Crime. That should not be at all surprising considering that the investigation may touch influential people. Have you heard from the average American who believes that anyone running for public office has a moral obligation? There are cry "entrapment" are denying what consider a basic attribute of a public official. Public office will always bring opportunities for bribes and special favors. Can we not longer expect that one of the qualifications for office should be the ability to resist such temptation? & when you go beyond that assumption,

35 FEB 20 1980

#140

41198

35 FEB 22 1980

60 MAY 28 1980

then I believe there is no hope
for representative government.

I say, keep up your work —
it has helped to restore my
faith in at least a part
of the government.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]

b-6

TRUE COPY

Undated
(postmarked 2/18/80)

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Dear Director Webster-

You are receiving a good deal of criticism from Congress and the News Media about your investigation of white collar crime. That should not be at all surprising considering that the investigation may touch influential people. Have you heard from the average American who believes that anyone running for public office has a moral obligation? Those who cry "entrapment" are denying what I consider a basic attribute of a public official. Public office will always bring opportunities for bribes and special favors. Can we not longer expect that one of the qualifications for office should be the ability to resist such temptation? If we've gone beyond that assumption, then I believe there is no hope for representative government.

I say, keep up your work -- it has helped to restore my faith in at least a part of the government.

Yours truly,

/s/ [REDACTED]

b-6

COPY:aga

ack
3/31/80
NB:AMS

[REDACTED]

b6
2)
3)

[Handwritten signature]

PPol m

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Feb 22, 1980

Public response re Abscam
Gentlemen,

CURTIS SOURCE

I support fully your ^{new} type of investigation into white collar crime and official corruption. Anyone with nothing to hide has no fear of a scam.

63-17561-142

[REDACTED]

60 MAY 21 1980
NB 149

FEB 25 1980
4/10/80

[REDACTED]

1/3
3)

112

EXP. PROC.
56 FEB 25 1980
#410

PHO 1/11

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

CALIFORNIA
February 22, 1980

The Honorable Benjamin R. Civiletti
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Civiletti: OUTSIDE SOURCE
Knowing that a lot of "static" is being developed by some members of the Congress regarding the so-called ABSCAM probe by the FBI, let me say that heartily approve of it. And I think the great majority of the American public is too.

We are cynical of the ineffectiveness of the Congress policing its own membership.

Attached is a copy of my letter of this date to Senator Cranston of California who appears to be one of your critics. I think the letter speaks for itself.

Sincerely,

The Honorable William H. Webster
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

The Honorable William H. Webster
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

ENCLOSURE

AUG 8 1980

Copy


DE 22

63-17561-142

7 FEB 23 1980

No ack necessary.
P AS/wh

WJW


CALIFORNIA
February 22, 1980

The Honorable Alan Cranston
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cranston:

If the enclosed clipping from the editorial pages of the San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle of February 17, 1980 correctly expresses your view of the so-called ABSCAM investigation by the FBI, I am surprised and disappointed.

It seems to me that honest members of Congress, as I consider you to be, should support the efforts of the FBI to uncover lawbreakers, where ever they are.

In the other enclosed article from the Oakland Tribune of February 17, 1980, King Features Syndicate writer Nicholas Von Hoffman shows that the Congress is not effectively policing its own members when they go astray.

Some members of Congress do not appear to be bound by the laws which the Congress itself enacts. Or, perhaps they feel that if they are apprehended in some unlawful or disgraceful act their fellow members will rise to protect them. This seems to be the case.

The current subtle attacks upon the FBI by some members of Congress for daring to intrude upon their sanctuary fall in the latter category.

As elections approach, I realize that it is most embarrassing to all members of Congress to have some of their members revealed as having been involved in some unlawful or disgraceful act. However, the best way to avoid this is for the Congress itself to become more effective in policing itself.

This is the first letter that I have ever written to you. However, events of misdeeds by various members of the Congress over the past several years, culminating in this latest episode, have impelled me to do so.

It is George Washington's birthday as I write. I wonder what the Father of Our Country would say if he could witness the present scene in the Congress?

Sincerely,


Encl. 2

63-17561-142
ENCLOSURE

Lawmakers offended by the FBI

THE "ABSCAM" investigation, in which some congressmen may have been caught grabbing for bribe money, has hit Washington like a ton of bricks. Some of the variegated responses are noteworthy — especially the reactions of two members of Congress from California.

Obviously, many members are furious at the FBI, but very few are proposing, out loud, to crack down on it. Among those few, though, is Rep. Don Edwards, D-Hayward, who chairs a House subcommittee with considerable jurisdiction over the agency. And Sen. Alan Cranston is quite critical of the FBI.

The latter says that the FBI improperly dangled temptation before some of the lawmakers and that it should focus on known criminal activities instead of hearing in upon public officials in this way. The FBI, Cranston says, was not created to "test the integrity of members of Congress ..."

From what we know of how the investigation came out, however, we must say that somebody needs to test the integrity of at least some of the

members. The FBI is the federal agency created to ferret out crime under federal law. Should it draw back if it sees some threads leading up to Capitol Hill?

Rep. Edwards says that reins are needed to prevent the FBI from undertaking some types of "sting" operations in which people are nabbed for accepting payoffs or committing other crimes. "We don't want them to use any entrapment or enticement in these operations," said the California legislator. He indicated that his subcommittee might put a brake on such things in a new charter it's drawing up to regulate the FBI.

Rather than reining in the FBI very much, we think that the House would do well to put a rein on Rep. Edwards, if he goes very far with his notion of imposing further investigative restrictions. The people are interested in seeing criminals caught, and are not offended by the fact that the G-men have intruded into some of the richer and more imperious precincts in that assignment.

OAKLAND TRIBUNE
2/17/80

Congressional bribes

Both parties score high in corruption

By Nicholas Von Hoffman

There are only 535 members of Congress—senators and representatives both. In no other office of the same size does such a high percentage of the employees so regularly disgrace themselves and dishonor the organization they work for.

A search of the records going back six years shows in that time responsible allegations of serious crime were made against 51 members of Congress. Thirty-one Democrats were accused of theft, receipt of illegal campaign contributions from foreign powers, bribery, kickbacks, etc.

Twenty Republicans were accused of the same crimes. Since there are about that ratio of Democrats to Republicans in Congress the statesmen of both parties seem to have the same greasy palm index.

In compiling this list, names like Pennsylvania's former Republican Sen. Hugh Scott were left off. Shortly before he retired, gravely compromising accusations were made concerning certain moneys he is alleged to have received.

Nor does this congressional crime count include somebody like Wayne Hays, the Ohio representative who resigned after he was accused of putting a blonde on his congressional office payroll, or Wilbur Mills, the alcoholic Arkansas Democrat, who ran off after a bubble dancer.

Also excluded from the count is J. Herbert Burke, the Florida Republican who pleaded guilty to creating a scene in a nude bar. Likewise treated as non-serious, and therefore not counted, is the admission in February 1976, by 18 members of Congress, including the chairmen of both the House and the Senate ethics committees, tra-la, that they had been taking gratuities from defense manufacturers in the form of free hunting trips.

'A sting will only net the greediest and stupidest officeholders.'

On the basis of a few off the record discussions with honest lobbyists who have to make it their business to understand and outwit the prevailing patterns of dishonesty, it appears that a sting operation such as the one mounted by the FBI will only net the greediest and the stupidest office holders. This investigation, which has focused an accusatory spotlight on seven Democratic and one Republican member of Congress, wasn't designed to catch crooked politicians but gangsters. The FBI were like fishermen who cast their nets to get tuna and inadvertently capture porpoises or is it barracuda?

In any event, the wise people in Washington say the big money drops don't happen as they did in the sting operation, during which it is being reported that one member of Congress and his associate were videotaped literally wrestling over who was going to get to carry the attache cases full of dough. The smoother operators don't take it in cash and don't take it in Washington. The drop is made in another part of the country and not to the congressperson nor any member of his staff, but to someone with no formal connection, perhaps no known connection with the elected official.

Every time a scandal like this hits, acquaintances of the accused shake their heads and say, "I don't understand how so and so could be so dumb. Why take a chance like that?"

Crooked politicians probably aren't taking much of a chance. Of the 24 pols seriously implicated in the Korean bribery scandal, only one ever went to jail. He made the mistake of pleading guilty and has publicly kicked himself since then, saying if he had fought the charges he'd probably never have had to pull a day of time. With the help of friends in strategic places, by delay and procrastination, or by making some staff member take the fall in his place, even the dumbest and hungriest can lumber off with fat pieces of meat draped over their teeth.

Nor the dishonesty quotient among members of Congress likely to drop. There is no ongoing program policing them. Exposure, as in the sting sensation, is invariably accidental. Because of the constitutional separation of powers, it is legally much harder to whomp on a congressional crook than an ordinary soldier in life's various mafias.

Congress is supposed to police itself, but pride for one's office seldom supersedes the profits of one's pals. Some day the ethics committee may find itself with a quorum, but don't count on it.

Nicholas Von Hoffman writes for the King Features Syndicate.

OUTSIDE SUPERVISOR

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Public Response Re. 2/23/80
Absecon

Dear Sir:

I approve of the FBI teams now going on & there should be more. It is about time the people are given some consideration by our government & that somebody is touching the untouchables. You people are the only ones that can do it for us. Thanks

Yours

[Redacted Signature]

b-6

NY

insufficient address
P 40/144

DE-21

63-17561-142x2

715
FEB 23 1980

63-17561

60 AUG 08 1980

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Lab.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

2) [REDACTED] A1.
3) 23 February 1980

Mr. William Webster,
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Sir:

Public Response Re: Abram

CONGRATULATIONS! The F.B.I. is doing a wonderful job in bringing criminals to justice in Washington, D. C., New Jersey and Florida. If those influence peddlers on Goat Hill known as Congressmen and Senators take as much as a ten cent tip, NAIL 'EM!

I have written my Senators and told them to get off the back of the F.B.I. and let them do the job that Senators and Congressmen on the Ethics Committee won't do.

You have my backing. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Y-36
13 17561-1421/2

7-31-81
2 FEB 22 1980

b-6

6882-1-1

TC

PPH/alt

EXP. PROC
36 FEB 28 1980

b-6

2) [redacted] 3) [redacted] CALIFORNIA [redacted] TELEPHONE [redacted]

Feb. 24, 1980.

11X

Dear Director Webster: ^{INSIDE SOURCE} PUBLIC RESPONSE Re: abscon

Please accept my congratulations to you and your department on the excellent job done during the recent "Sting" activities. It is the greatest accomplishment since the apprehending and disposing of John Dillinger! Keep up the good work!

With Congress involved the problems and pressures will be great so thought this slight expression of appreciation would be welcome.

I recently retired after being with a major Corporation for 38 years and have had time to look around a little bit. Was very pleased with many things but most of all with your fine department.

Sincerely,

[redacted signature block]

436

63-17561-148 X4

7-31-FI
15 MAR 4 1980

66 SEP 8 1981

ack
3/9/80
MB:ums

T6

PHS/MI

Public Response Re

2/25/80

ABSCAM

Dear Gentlemen,

I have no doubt that congressmen are guilty of accepting bribes and that infiltration by undercover agents is a vital means of detection in certain types of crime. Indeed, the "sting" is embodied in American law under a 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision.

However, I do not fully understand the FBI's justification of ~~ABSCAM~~ ^{ABSCAM}. Isn't it true that the FBI went beyond the point of simply participating in ongoing criminal activity? Why was there an extensive leakage of the facts of the case to the press even before certain congressmen were told they were under investigation?

I deeply respect the FBI's determination to tackle organized crime and political corruption. I understand that these are cases in which evidence is hard to obtain and cases that will stand up in court are hard to build.

I would very much appreciate it if you could explain your position on ABSCAM. Your immediate response will be highly regarded.

Ack

4/2/80

NB: lmb

Sincerely,

Please write to:

3) [redacted] Florida

HAVE A GOOD DAY

08 JUN 03 1980

2 FEB 25 1980

4/10/80

PRO

n6/20h

EXP. PROC.

40 FEB 20 1980

#40

63-17561-144

STEWART SECURITY SERVICES

Crystal House I, Apt. 202
1900 South Eads
Arlington, Virginia 22202

W. Donald Stewart, President

(703) 979-6540
Security Consultant - Investigations

Feb 25, 1980

Judge William Webster
Director, F.B.I.
9th & Pa. Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

Public
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RESPONSE
120
ABSCAM

Dear Judge Webster,

Attached piece on Abscam is for your interest. I believe that the White House has sought sand bagged you and A.G. Civiletti for Political purposes of their own. I wanted my support of you and Neil Welch made known.

My piece has been widely disseminated to the press; White House; A.G.; and several members of Cong. & the Senate.

Sincerely,

W. Donald Stewart

Ack
4/1/80
NB: lmb

63-17561-146

4/10/80
5 FEB 25 1980

PERS. REC. UNIT

EX-11

68 JUN 03 1980

STEWART SECURITY SERVICES

Crystal House I, Apt. 202
1900 South Eads
Arlington, Virginia 22202

W. Donald Stewart, President

(703) 979-6540
Security Consultant - Investigations

February 25, 1980

Operation Abscam - A White House Leak?

I'm an old retired Pentagon "leak chaser" with a batting average of 85% cases solves of 222 handled between August 1965 until December 1972. At that time I was the Chief of the Investigations Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense. Now, I feel obliged to comment on the recent well-publicized Arab Scam (Abscam) leak.

Let me bluntly state I think that the two ongoing investigations to solve the leak to the press are being conducted at the wrong end of Pennsylvania Avenue. I firmly believe the White House is responsible for the leak.

My Interest

To demonstrate my reasoning for believing the White House is responsible for the leak to the press, I'm going to assign this case to myself for investigation. First, allow me to advise what my interest is in this matter. It is purely selfish because as a taxpayer I feel I'm being unnecessarily ripped-off with the expense of two investigations as a result of Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti and Democratic Members of the House of Representatives each having their feathers ruffled due to the great public embarrassment associated with the leak that involved six Democratic House Members and one Democratic Senator. One Republican House Member was also snared. Accordingly, Mr. Civiletti has conscripted the services of Mr. Richard Blumenthal, a U. S. Attorney from Connecticut, to personally lead an investigation within the Department of Justice to determine if the leak was in-house. Congressman Charles Bennett (D-Florida), Chairman of the House Ethics Committee, not to be outdone, has hired Washington, DC Attorney Mr. E. Barrett Prettyman, Jr., along with his prestigious law firm of Hogan and Hartson to investigate the potential bribery charges against the named Abscam House Members. Can you imagine what their astronomical cost will be to the taxpayer? Whatever happened to due process of law such as a Grand Jury hearing? Maybe there won't be eight indictments. Actually, Mr. Prettyman's main role has to be trying to solve the Abscam leak to help reduce the pressure on the House Members involved.

63-17561-146

ENCLOSURE

The Leak - A Non-criminal Violation

I'm not a lawyer, but I am very familiar with Title 18, Section 793, U. S. Code, which relates to Unauthorized Disclosures of Classified Defense Information. When we speak of a "leak," the U. S. public has become conditioned to thinking of it in the terms of the disclosure of Top Secret, Secret, or Confidential data which would be prejudiced to the best interests of our National Defense. The Abscam leak is not a classified disclosure. It is simply an Administrative impropriety on someone's part which I can't believe would even carry a one-day jail term. Mr. Civiletti only threatened to fire the culprit if he was a Justice Department employee.

I really have to laugh at this point as I've personally conducted investigations of some of the most earthshaking classified leaks we've had during my time at the Defense Department and have been hamstrung by the investigative methods I was permitted to use. Yet, because of the embarrassment to the parties involved, Mr. Blumenthal speaks of rolling out some big weapons - mind you, for an Administrative leak - such as the polygraph; subpoena power to even possibly call members of the press; in-house wiretaps; and, of course, the taking of sworn statements from suspects. It has yet to be determined just what authority Mr. Prettyman will have. You can bet Government employee morale will be lower after their respective inquisitions.

Mr. Civiletti could discreetly have requested his in-house police force - the Office of Professional Responsibility - to conduct the inquiry for the suspected leaker. Why didn't he?

Motivation

Okay, and now to work. Throughout my "leak-chasing" years, I developed several categories in which a leak case would normally fall, i.e., Political, Retaliatory, Conscience, Military Budget, Contrived, etc. Once the category is identified, then pursuing the leaker is easier. The Abscam leak had me puzzled for some time because I couldn't fit it into a particular category. Finally, I realized it had to be Political and the following is the manner in which it was so deduced.

First, looking for motivation of the parties involved caused me after examination to eliminate them one at a time. FBI Director William Webster, he's relatively new on the job; has an impeccable reputation and could gain nothing but criticism from the leak. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, the man who knowingly would end up with the most egg on his face, certainly would have no reason to cause the leak. Then, as in any mystery, there are the butlers - Mr. Neil Welch, who is the Assistant Director of the New York FBI Office, became a well-known white collar crime fighter while Special Agent in Charge of the Philadelphia Office. Mr. Welch headed the FBI drive in the Abscam case; and Mr. Thomas Puccio, the Brooklyn Federal Prosecutor in charge of the overall Abscam investigation. Conceivably, each of these two men, if angered by

high-level interference could have "spilled the beans," but naturally each would realize that attention would be immediately focused upon him and each would undergo microscopic scrutiny. Further, if either leaked Abscam, he would have chosen one reporter and been that reporter's today's "Deep Throat," but that is not how the Abscam leak occurred. Thus, both Mr. Welch and Mr. Puccio are eliminated.

My next thought was who else was on the distribution list for this closely held data. Suddenly, I realized that the White House had to know. It would be unthinkable for Mr. Civiletti not to inform President Carter since so many distinguished Members of Capitol Hill were involved, particularly seven Democrats.

The Nature of the Leak

Let's examine the nature of the leak. Normally, the type of disclosure with which I was associated was that of someone in Government providing Columnist Jack Anderson, George Wilson of The Washington Post, Neil Sheehan or William Beecher, then of The New York Times, or some other well-known reporter classified data. This was always a "one-on-one" situation. The reporter wouldn't tell and, if the leaker kept quiet, he could only be convicted on circumstantial evidence at best. The Abscam leak could better be described as an "explosion." Although Tony Marro of Newsday gets credit for being first in print on February 3rd, he was being raced to the wire by The Washington Post and The New York Times. Yet, at 6:30 P.M. on February 2nd, NBC News released sketchy details of the Abscam case and on February 3rd was already enroute to set up its television cameras on the FBI Abscam House in Washington, DC.

The Abscam "explosion" is reminiscent to me of the Nixon White House days when that administration was trying to get SALT I approved and released "shotgun" leaks to promote the cause to a half dozen news reporters. The Abscam "explosion" was too well orchestrated to have been done by any one person not having free access to many media representatives.

Yes, the White House Press Secretary would have the capability of orchestrating such a leak. It, of course, is not beyond the mentality of Press Secretary Jody Powell. After all, he once tried to embarrass Senator Percy by inadvertently leaking "on the record" to a reporter who identified him as the source. Mr. Powell's purpose allegedly was to disrupt the Bert Lance inquiry being conducted then.

Do I think Jody Powell leaked the Abscam to the media? My answer is "Yes." Was it his idea? My answer is "No." I've heard the White House has denied any involvement. We must remember Mr. Civiletti is the Attorney General because the White House nominated him; therefore, it would be unthinkable to me to believe that when seven Democrats are caught in a criminal-type trap that Mr. Civiletti or an aide would not advise the President - particularly in an election year.

Now, without the support of the Democratic Congress, how could the President ever hope to get any legislation passed? Accordingly, prior to February 3rd, the score was 7-to-1 in favor of the Republicans; therefore, something had to be done quickly to terminate this ongoing Political embarrassment. The only way was to "blow Abscam out of the water." Jody Powell has the freedom of motion to deal with the news and television reporters without attracting any undue attention. His office had the capability of creating the Abscam "explosion," covertly more than any other Federal office because the media "hangs around" there.

To pursue the leak a little further, news accounts reflect that Mr. Marro, The Washington Post and The New York Times reporter, after getting the story, rapidly descended upon Mr. Welch and Mr. Puccio for confirmation of details. This was an old routine with former The New York Times reporter Bill Beecher. He would get the hard cold facts from the Nixon White House and then chase around the Defense Department confirming and enlarging his story and throwing out a smoke screen as to his source. Ironically, none of the above newspaper representatives went to the White House.

Solution

If Mr. Civiletti and the House Ethics Committee would each lay down their weapons for a moment and ask Jody Powell and any other White House staffer who had knowledge of the Abscam to volunteer for a polygraph examination, I sincerely believe that this poor taxpayer could be saved a lot of money.

I rest my case.

By W. DONALD STEWART

Addendum:

W. Donald Stewart served as an FBI Agent from July 1951 until August 1965, the last nine years as an Espionage Supervisor at FBI Headquarters. From August 1965 until December 1972, he served as Chief of the Investigations Division, Office of the Secretary of Defense; and from December 1972 until he retired on June 30, 1975, as Inspector General of the Defense Investigative Service. Since his retirement, he has become President of Stewart Security Services which offers consultant security services and private investigations.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS

1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 211, Washington, D.C. 20009 202-797-7757

February 27, 1980

Mr. William H. Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Mr. Webster:

Thank you for your letter of February 22 agreeing to a meeting with an NAAA group to discuss Arab-American concerns about the FBI in the wake of ABSCAM. The time that has been arranged through Ms. Devine is 2:30 P.M. on Thursday, March 6 at your office.

The NAAA group will be made up of the following: Mrs. Joanne McKenna, NAAA President; Mr. Jean AbiNader, NAAA Executive Director; Mr. Cherif Sedky, NAAA Board Member and local attorney; Mr. Richard Shadyac, past NAAA President and local attorney; and Dr. James Zogby, NAAA Board Member and Coordinator of the Palestine Human Rights Campaign.

We appreciate the opportunity for a useful exchange of views.

Sincerely,

John P. Richardson
John P. Richardson
Director of Public Affairs

JPR/dt

Copy made for Tele. Rm.

3/3/80

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Officers

- *Joanne McKenna
President
- *Alexander Simon, Jr.
Executive Vice President
- *Thomas Abraham
Vice President
- *Anis Nick Shamiyeh
Vice President
- *Sheryl Saunders
Secretary
- *David Sadd
Treasurer

Board of Directors

- Thomas Abraham, Maryland
- Paul Ajlouny, New York
- Vic Ajlouny, California
- Abid Al-Marayati, Ohio
- Violet Asha, Maryland
- Bill Agsey, Iowa
- Mohamed A. Baghal, New Jersey
- Cherif Bassiouni, Illinois
- *Joseph D. Baroody, Washington, DC
- Frederic Cadora, Ohio
- Gerald G. Decker, Pennsylvania
- George A. Doumani, Washington, DC
- William Driebe, MD, Virginia
- William Edwards, California
- Charles Gebron, Maryland
- Jawad George, Washington, DC
- *Minor George, Ohio
- Jack Hamady, Michigan
- David Harami, Ohio
- Isa Hasan, Michigan
- Robert Hazo, Pennsylvania
- George Hishmeh, Maryland
- *Edmond Howar, Washington, DC
- Richard Joseph, Pennsylvania
- Robert D. Joseph, Pennsylvania
- Lawrence Lataif, Virginia
- George T. Mahshie, New York
- *Frank Maria, New Hampshire
- Joanne McKenna, Ohio
- Rev. Fr. Paul Mouawad, California
- George R. Najemy, Massachusetts
- Muhamad Najjab, Pennsylvania
- Abdallah E. Najjar, Georgia
- George A. Nassif, Michigan
- Virginia Piendak, Pennsylvania
- Richard J. Razook, Florida
- Mike Saah, Virginia
- L. David Sabbagh, Ohio
- Sandra C. Sabbagh, Indiana
- Bahidj B. Sabouni, California
- David Sadd, Virginia
- Theodore A. Sahley, Ohio
- *James F. Sams, Washington, DC
- Sheryl Saunders, Texas
- *Cherif Sedky, Washington, DC
- Anis Nick Shamiyeh, California
- *Hisham Sharabi, Washington, DC
- Alexander A. Simon, Jr., Georgia
- *Peter Tanous, Maryland
- Ibrahim Tawasha, California
- Robert W. Thabit, New York
- James Zogby, Pennsylvania
- *Executive Committee Members

MAY 20 1980

64 JUN 24 1980

CRANSTON ASSAULTS

Bel on 'Abscam'

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) says the FBI was not created to "test the integrity of members of Congress" and should focus upon known criminal activity rather than tempting officials to commit crimes.

Referring to the FBI "Abscam" bribery investigation that has implicated eight members of Congress and other public officials, Cranston said: "It is not appropriate for the FBI to lead people into temptation."

Cranston, who Wednesday kicked off his reelection campaign with news conferences in three cities, said he did not have all the details of the probe and could not conclude that it was inappropriate.

However, he said, it appeared to him that one of those contacted in the undercover investigation, Rep. Larry Pressler, (R-S.D.) "was simply tested with temptation dangled in his face."

"That is not an appropriate way for the FBI to behave," he said. "I think the FBI has more appropriate ways to spend its time. The FBI was not set up to test the integrity of members of Congress or citizens in general."

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

EXP. PROC.
40 FEB 26 1980
#10

Public Response RE Abscam

Sen. Cranston, My God! Has our Congress become such a body of men (?) that they are to be protected against "temptation".

[I was raised to believe that Congress was a body of men to respect, that they should set a standard for others to follow...now you come out in statements which question they be tested!

The FBI is doing a job which needs the support of everyone, "test the integrity of members of Congress". And, anyone who would not support this important effort should be in question himself.

6-6
1980 Copy.
No att necessary.
PRO/MB
CA

DE-14

63-17501-146x1

7/13
5 FEB 1980

cc: FBI
Washington, D.C.

SIX

Exec AD Adm.	_____
Exec AD Inv.	_____
Exec AD Leg.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Insp.	_____
Intell.	_____
Lab.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Serv.	_____
Training	_____
Off. of Cong. & Public Affairs	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response RE ABSCAM

Thank you for being
a big part of our Govt.
and letting us know
the kind of people we elect
to office. ^{N.Y.}

[REDACTED]

EXP. FILE
-36 FEB 25 1980
40
Ry

b6

66 AUG 1 1980
no address
no action
PAS/M

63-17561

23 FEB 25 1980
7115
3-17561-116X2
60

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response RE ABSCAM

8-16-80

Congratulations on the Bureau's recent successes in uncovering graft and corruption in government. The people have long needed another Elliot Ness. I'm sure you have the backing of every citizen.

God Hunting [redacted], Re.

[redacted], NE

40 FEB 20 1980

#40

6-6

65 AUG 2 1980
 insufficient
 evidence
 no ask
 p 80 / ask

DE-14

63-17561-146x3

6 FEB 25 1980

ST

28 FEB 1980

DIRECTOR,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D.C.

Public Response Re

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE RECENT ABSCAM OPERATION EXECUTED BY THE FBI.

DEAR SIR:

Abscam

THIS LETTER IS WRITTEN TO LET YOU KNOW THAT MYSELF AND AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF CITIZENS APPROVE OF YOUR OCCASIONAL EFFORTS TO CHECK THE INTEGRITY OF OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS. I REFER TO THE RECENT FBI PROBE-OPERATION WHEREIN (ALLEGEDLY) EIGHT OF OUR CONGRESSMEN ACCEPTED BRIBES OFFERED BY AN FBI AGENT---THE AGENT WAS POSING AS SOMEONE SEEKING SPECIAL FAVORS FROM CONGRESS. IT IS SORROWFUL THAT HUMAN NATURE FOSTERS WEAKNESS IN OUR OFFICIALS AND IT IS BASICALLY UNDESIRABLE TO HAVE COVERT ACTION DIRECTED AT OURSELVES RATHER THAN AT OUR EXTERNAL ENEMIES---BUT A CERTAIN AMOUNT EVIDENTLY SEEMS TO BE NECESSARY.


OF COURSE, CRIES OF UNFAIR ENTRAPMENT WILL BE HEARD FROM THE HILL IN DEFENSE OF THESE REPRESENTATIVES; HOWEVER, ENTRAPMENT IS GREATLY OVERSHADOWED AS AN ISSUE IN THIS CASE. THE PREVAILING ISSUES ARE HONESTY, TRUST, HONOR AND GOOD JUDGEMENT ON THE PART OF OUR LEGISLATORS. THAT SUCH ELECTED OFFICIALS WOULD RISK LOSING THEIR POSITIONS---POSITIONS OBTAINED THROUGH GREAT EFFORT AND COST---FOR TAINTED MONEY PRESENTS A MYSTERY TO ALL, AND THE ACT PRESENTS A PERSONAL AFFRONT TO ME AND MY FAMILY. SUCH POOR JUDGEMENT AND WEAKNESS IN PERSONAL DECISIONS INDICATE THAT POOR JUDGEMENT MAY ALSO BE EXERCISED BY THESE MEN ON MATTERS THAT AFFECT ME AND MY COUNTRY.

MOST OF US REALIZE THAT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (HOUSE AND SENATE) ARE OFTEN TEMPTED AND TRIED BY MANY FACTIONS IN OUR SOCIETY. IT IS EVIDENT THAT OCCASIONAL FBI PROBES WILL HELP OUR CONGRESS OVERCOME TEMPTATION, SINCE REPRESENTATIVES WILL WONDER IF AN OFFERED BRIBE OR PROPOSED SCHEME IS THE REAL THING OR JUST A BAITED PROBE. IF THE BAIT IS TAKEN, THE RESULTS WILL PROVIDE A WARNING FOR OTHERS. TO ME, IT SEEMS UNBELIEVABLE THAT THE RECENT AND PAINFUL EPISODES OF WATERGATE AND KOREAGATE HAVE NOT INSTILLED ENOUGH CAUTION AND RESTRAINT ON SUCH MATTERS IN WASHINGTON.

I UNDERSTAND THE RAMIFICATIONS OF SECRET POLICE ACTION AS DESCRIBED BY ALEXANDER SCHLENITSYN IN HIS EXCELLENT BOOKS (E.G., GULAG ARCHAPELAGO); HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT THE NATURE OF OUR SOCIETY WILL PERMIT SUCH AS THE ABSCAM OPERATION WITHOUT UNDESIRABLE RESULTS. A TRULY HONEST MAN CANNOT BE SHAKEN BY SUCH TEMPTATIONS AS THOSE PRESENTED BY THE FBI.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!! OPPOSING ARGUMENTS BY NICK THIMMESCH (NATIONAL SYNDICATE WRITER, NEWS VIRGINIAN NEWSPAPER, WAYNESBORO, 16 FEB 80), ARE SHALLOW AND INEFFECTIVE.

*ack
3/31/80
NB: KNO*

*11
2)
3)*  *6 6*
VIRGINIA

COPY TO: THE HONORABLE CALDWELL BUTLER.
THE HONORABLE KENNETH ROBINSON.

63-117561-410180
4/10/80
6

60 MAY 28 1980

b-6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

D.C.

[REDACTED]

Feb 29

AK

OFFICIAL SOURCE

My dear Mr. Webster R. ABSEN
Public Response This is just a

(Circled signature)

EXP-PROC
40 MAR 7 1980

say we silent majority Americans are so very proud
of you and wish to congratulate you on the splendid
work you are doing. Let nothing nor no one stand
in your way to clean up the Washington corruption
and the wicked Mafia group who cast such a

63-17561-150

shadow over America.

Keep up the Good work - We're all

ENCLOSURE

behind you, sir!

ack
3/3/80
NB: KIM Sencels,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

So. Carolina

b-6

more power to you
keep up the good work!

FBI Chief Kept



William Webster

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI Director William H. Webster personally reviewed and sometimes altered the bureau's tactics in the Abscam investigation before each meeting between undercover agents and members of Congress.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Webster described late last week some of the precautions taken to insure that the 16-month undercover investigation of political corruption produced cases that would stand up in court.

"I was briefed in advance of every interview of a congressional figure," the FBI director said. "I might get information about the case several times a day, and several days might intervene between the next event. But I was briefed in time to modify any important step that I did not consider to be appropriate."

And, he said, "I interposed some additional requirements to eliminate ambiguity of purpose" before some of the contacts with the seven congressmen and one senator now implicated in the case. On all these steps, Webster said, he consulted

63-17561 150

ENCLOSURE

Photo/aut

Exec AD-Adm.	_____
Exec AD-Inv.	_____
Exec AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Insp.	_____
Intell.	_____
Lab.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Serv.	_____
Training	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response ^{Re-} Abseam

Sir: Congratulations on your recent Arab investigation. Keep up the good work. It is a shame that our legislators have fallen to such a low level of esteem. It is very discouraging...there is just no one that the citizens can look up to in the Congress or The White House. We are in a sad state of moral decay in this nation. I hope that you have other similar programs planned. All it seems that is needed, is a few million bucks and you can buy anything or anybody in Washington. I hope that these culprits are never permitted to "investigate" themselves. Your fine work will be for nothing!

A disgusted citizen.

ack 3/23/80
3/23/80
no: 14110

2/ 3/

[Redacted block] Pa.

EXP. PROC.
NO. FEB 28 1980 #40

63-17561-152

4/10/80

68 MAY 28 1980

pkelut

BRAKES • CLUTCHES • DIFFERENTIALS • TRANSMISSIONS • DRIVE LINES

PLAZA FLEET PARTS

522 SOUTH BROADWAY ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63104 TELEPHONE: 314-231-5047
TOLL-FREE Missouri 1-800-392-7239
Out-state 1-800-325-7648

BRAKES • CLUTCHES • DIFFERENTIALS • TRANSMISSIONS • DRIVE LINES

PLAZA FLEET PARTS

1520 SOUTH BROADWAY ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63104 TELEPHONE: 314-231-5047
TOLL-FREE Missouri 1-800-392-7239
Out-state 1-800-325-7648

Public Response.

Dear Mr. Webster,
In my estimation, a beam was most
"laudatory!"

And what is entrapment? Not too long ago I was in our neighborhood restaurant and decided to get that morning's Globe Democrat from the coin operated vending box, which is just outside the restaurant. When I got to the box, a man had just purchased a paper (20¢) and still had the door open. He said to me: "Go ahead and take one." I replied: "No! I don't cheat! I play fairly!" One has the choice of accepting or rejecting that which is offered to him. Societal rottenness, if rampant, will destroy the society in which in which it starts.

Sincerely and patriotically,

[Redacted Signature]

ack 3/31/80
NB: 10MB/1MB

68-17561-154

[Redacted Block]

4/10/80
5 FEB 20 1980

EXP. PROC.

#3

air

OUTSIDE SOURCE

1) [redacted]
2) c/o [redacted] High School
3) [redacted]
4) [redacted] Ohio

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

To whomever it may concern,

Public Response Re Abscam

Recently, a "sting" operation executed by the F.B.I. was made public. I am referring to the undercover operation "Abscam" that has placed suspicion on the honesty of several congressmen and one senator.

I am very impressed by the way "Abscam" was carried out and by its results, and I would appreciate answers to some of my questions about these "sting" operations. To what extent are F.B.I. funds and personell used for these types of operations? Is there a particular person or office in the F.B.I. responsible for them? When did the F.B.I. first start using these "sting" operations and for what reasons? What are some other recent operations (I am especially interested in the one centered in Toledo, Ohio that dealt with car thefts)? Your reply to my letter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted signature]

REC-20
#20
4/29/80

6-6

63-17561-156

4-29
5 APR 29 1980

PHOTO

ack

4/10/80

MB: lmb/ [redacted]

60 MAY 28 1980

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

[REDACTED]
INDIANA
[REDACTED]

February 29, 1980

Mr. William Webster
Director of F.B.I.
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20535

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response Re: Abscam

Dear Sir:

First of all, let me thank you for the Department's investigation of Abscam.

For the average American I believe this will create a greater faith in our government, knowing that no one is above the law. Those who are casting derogatory remarks about your efforts to investigate are the same people who would be first to yell if you were not doing what you think is right for the protection of our American heritage.

It is my honest belief that the larger percentage of Americans would be backing your investigation. In my opinion we could get thousands of names on a petition to back you and your department's efforts to be without government interference.

May 1980 be your greatest year. Thanks again.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

40 MAR 5 1980
FBI PROC
H

/gf

*ack 3/18/80
705.1110*

11-22

63-11561-120X

136

15 MAR 4 1980

W
66 SEP 8 1981

3

SIX
PREP

AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

2) [REDACTED]
 3) [REDACTED] OREGON
 TELEPHONE [REDACTED]

b-6

March 2, 1980

Mr. William Webster
 Director, Federal
 Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D.C.

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response Re
Alream
 Dear Mr. Webster,

I would like to express my support and approval for your recent sting operations, such as 'Abscam' and 'Brilab.' The unwillingness of our law enforcement agencies to seriously tackle political and white-collar corruption has concerned me greatly. It's pretty well acknowledged that without the cover of political protection, big money crime simply cannot flourish. If this country can't get a Congress of predominantly honest and principled men and women, we have no future. I hope your prosecutions are pursued vigorously.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

b-6

cc: Sen. M. Hatfield
 Sen. B. Packwood
 Rep. L. Aucoin

ack 3/31/80
sub

63-17561-158

4/10/80
 MAR 7 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

716

SLX

PA/ol

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCE

com 15
 [Redacted] So. Dak.
 March 3, 1980

SNB
 Mr William H. Webster
 Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir, Public Response Re Abscam
 After reading the article "The New
 FBI Swings Into Action" in the Feb 18th issue
 of U.S. News & World Report I feel a big
THANK YOU is in order. I believe a
 large majority of the people of these
 great United States are behind you and
 believe you are definitely doing a superb
 job.

63-17561-160

Enclosed is an article from the Huron,
 South Dakota "Daily Plainsman". Best
 wishes to you & all members of your
 fine organization.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]
 S.D.

ack
4/22/80
 68 MAY 28 1980

NMC

EX-100-100-100
 4/29/80

Huron, S.D. "Daily Plaindealer"
Feb 14, 1980

Editorials

Good luck, FBI

Abscam, the Federal Bureau of Investigation probe into organized crime that linked eight members of Congress to wrongdoing, got a lot of attention. Partly because some of the information was improperly leaked before testimony was completed and partly because public figures were involved, the FBI, in the eyes of some commentators seemed more at fault than the wrongdoers.

Abscam is only one of some 50 operations undertaken by the bureau in an effort to disrupt the criminal conspiracy that has operated in this country since the early 1930s.

Brilab, short for bribery-labor, an investigation aimed at exposing a connection between organized crime and organized labor, might become the biggest single anti-mob operation of them all. This one has reportedly uncovered a massive nationwide conspiracy to divide the country into new regional crime empires.

Miporn, a 2½-year operation, came to light on Feb. 14 with the indictment of 54 persons on charges of pornographic trafficking and film pirating. That investigation involved 400 FBI agents in 10 states. It was financed partly by the motion picture industry because that was the industry losing money to the film pirates.

Whether or not the bureau has some sort of rule regarding catch names for its investigations — they all seem to end up as six-letter words — we can expect to hear of more of these special probes. And as the names of public figures are revealed, there will be serious and concentrated efforts to discredit these investigations and the FBI.

Back in the early days of J. Edgar Hoover, bank robbers and gangsters were common targets for FBI operations.

They were popular. Everyone understood that it was wrong to rob a bank or murder another thug. That is undoubtedly why the FBI liked to go after such targets.

But over the decades organized crime has found it profitable to engage in legitimate business, partly to gain an image of respectability and partly as a means of laundering revenue derived from illegal sources.

As the scope of Mafia-controlled operations has increased, the huge sums of money used to buy congressmen, judges, police officers, prosecutors and other public officials has also increased. In some of the white-collar crimes that the FBI is digging into, the demarcation line between right and wrong is not always clear. The percentage of congressmen reported to have taken the Abscam bait testifies to the inability of far too many public officials to discern between right and wrong when a payoff is involved.

The FBI was well along in its investigations before the crime world was fully alerted to its goals. From this point on the bureau will be the target of organized crime, speaking through the persons of supposedly respectable public officials. Organized crime can and will spend mountains of money trying to discredit the investigations. Much of that money will be used to bribe, or attempt to bribe, those who will be witnesses and the public figures involved in the prosecution.

The Justice Department and the FBI deserve a lot of credit for the work that has been reported so far. The least the public can do is afford the bureau the same support that it enjoyed back in the earlier days of the more spectacular, but less dangerous, bank robbers.

61-160

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Handwritten scribble

Handwritten scribble

OUTSIDE SOURCE

3-4-80
 Dear Sir: Public Response Re Abscam
 With all the bad news in this country
 your explanation regarding ABSCAM,
 re the McNeil/Lehr Report was refreshing.
 I am beginning to have some respect & pride
 in my country again.

4/17/80
 N. C. P. O. A. H.

68 MAY 28 1980

Sincerely,
 [Redacted signature block]
 [Redacted name block]

MAR 18 1980

b-6

EXP. PROC.
 40 MAR 19 1980
 #20 4/29/80

Handwritten signature

68 MAY 28 1980

[Redacted]
New Jersey

b-6

March 4, 1980

CST

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear Director Webster;

[Redacted]

I have written numerous Congressmen
and Senators to tell them I believe
the FBI should have Clayton
to track down and prosecute corruption
in every area. Public Response Re Wilson

EXP. PROC.
MAR 7 1980
#110

The spectacle of the highest elected
body in government defending the
bribe takers while condemning the
act of bribe-giving as "outcrimement"
was most distressing. Is this the
New "Moral Code" of Congress?

V-18 DE-60

63-17561-164

4/10/80

68 MAY 28 1980

(over)

I believe the government Employee
has a sacred trust to perform in
a manner which will reflect credit
upon this country - not shame. And
these recent revelations (including Abcam)
are the shame of the Nation. Still,
they must be exposed.

And then we must instill the fear of
exposure by adequate punishment.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

b6

MAR 7 4 57 PM '80

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI

22 DIRECTOR

March 4, 1980

J. Serberling, Democate Representative, Ohio
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

INSIDE SOURCE

It alarms and concerns me, that you choose to limit the FBI in their "sting" ~~exp~~ operation! It certainly says something for you people too, when you attack FBI Director Webster for doing his job, and a damn good one I might add! What is the matter, the heat to close for comfort??

"And Justice for All?" What a laugh, it is ok to catch the everyday criminal, BUT when the criminal is a congressman and (or) a senator, then there is a different set of rules to play by, is that what you are saying?? Different rules for the leaders of our country.....these are the very people who should set examples, and be ethical and honest, incompetants SHOULD be weeded out!!

What do you take us for, we the people are not dummies...when you attack the FBI for doing their job, is that a sad day? I say that it is...

No one made those congressmen take bribes. It just goes to show that if it had not been the FBI, then it would have been and probably has been, someone else. The only difference being that we, the people, would never have known about it! Leave the FBI alone and let them do their job....and they should start at the top, what better place to begin? When you try to censure the FBI, then you are telling us that you know that this type behavior is taking place and you, by trying to keep it under wrapes, are condoning it!

It is long past the time that someone addressed themselves to this particular problem....

Sincerely:

Ga.

cc: FBI Director William Webster (by all means, keep up the good work!
Mr. Jack Anderson Washington Post

66 AUG 18 1980

DE-14

23 7/15 1980

Copy. Noack 63-17561-164
file 139-0-2394

TRUE COPY

Exec. AD-Inv. _____
Exec. AD-Adm. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgmt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs. _____
Gen. Inv. _____

1) [REDACTED]
2) [REDACTED]
3) [REDACTED] New Jersey

March 4, 1980

Dear Director Webster;

I have written numerous Congressmen and Senators to tell them I believe the FBI should have carte-blanche to track down and prosecute corruption in every area.

The spectacle of the highest elected body in government defending the bribe takers while condemning the act of bribe-giving as "entrapment" was most distressing. Is this the new "moral code" of Congress?

I believe the government employee has a sacred trust to perform in a manner which will reflect credit upon this country -- not shame. And these recent revelations (including Abscam) are the shame of the nation. Still, they must be exposed.

And then we must instill the fear of exposure by adequate punishment.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

COPY:aga

ack
3/31/80
H.B. Kuo

TP 2

encl 165

PTD/mt

nmf

2) [REDACTED] b-6
March 5, 1980

Mr. William Webster
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

4) INDIAN
public response to
Dear Mr. Webster:

I haven't been a particular admirer of the FBI since my impressionable period of life in the old Dillinger era. And I have deplored a great deal of its activity over the past score of years. Anybody can hassle a scruffy crowd of unpopular longhaired kids, or peer through the bedroom keyholes of civil rights leaders, as the FBI did.

But I must now acknowledge that I'm enormously impressed, favorably, with the agency's activities in going after serious organized crime and political corruption at high places in government. What imagination, creativity, and brilliant panache and just plain guts the FBI has shown in these recent pursuits. Congratulations!

Of course, you're now stepping on some sly and crafty toes, belonging to individuals in a position to dodge, duck, camouflage... and bite back. And already some of the Members of Congress are publicly talking about the most meaningful response they can make--going after your appropriations.

Well, I hope and pray the FBI won't be intimidated, and that it intends to continue with its sting operations, with all meticulous regard for the Constitutional rights of those caught up in the web.

I think the public knows our country has serious problems of political corruption in Government, notably in the Congress and some of the Administrative agencies. But there is no way that ordinary citizens or public groups can unmask such activities, nor see to it that appropriate justice is meted out. I think the FBI may be just about the only institution with a real capability in this area. It is laughable to suggest that the "ethics" committees of the Congress would adequately police their members. They are past masters at the art of "wrist-slapping" and tail-covering. It is no wonder at all that the Congress enjoys one of the lowest confidence ratings of any American institution.

63-17561-166

68 MAY 23 1980

4/18/80
17 MAY 24 1980

It has been said that the recent revelations may further reduce public faith in the Congress. If corruption in the Congress is all that rampant, then we'd all better get cracking to change those conditions. But frankly, I think your actions will produce a constructive result. If you can help weed out corrupt Government officials, and help provide some of them with the extended hospitality of Federal correctional institutions, public confidence is likely to rise.

Of course, I would agree with some who have said injustices may result from premature disclosure of evidence, as apparently happened when details of the Congressional sting operation were first publicly reported. But one press account had it that the leaks occurred because of concern on the part of some FBI agents who feared the evidence and cases might be covered up at higher agency or Department levels. That, of course, would be inconceivably contemptible, and could even smack of possible future extortionate attempts.

I choose to dismiss that possibility, and to believe that the FBI, under your direction, now entertains nothing but earnest intent, and that the agency and the Justice Department fully intend to prosecute the present cases, as well as to continue rooting out others who would consciously betray the trust and responsibilities given them by their countrymen.

I shall be checking the news media daily, in anticipation of the many indictments of Congressional and other Government figures which should issue as a result of your work. I wish you well in your efforts.

Sincerely,



b-6

c: The Hon. Benjamin Civiletti

03/05/80

Mr. William Webster
Director, FBI
Hoover Bldg. Wash. D.C.
Public Response ABSCAM
Sir,

OUTSIDE SOURCE

I was impressed by your
answers to the Congressmen
who were in my opinion (and
many of my friends) browbeating
you just because some of the
Club members were caught
with their hands in the till.
The old saying, "You can't
cheat (sting) an honest man,"
still holds true. If they were
not interested in the money,
they should not have been
there. Please remember.

63-17561-168

4/1/80

68 MAY 28 1980

187

SLA

2.

Sir, that out here in Working
Stiff land you and the
FBI still have hard core
supporters. Hang in there.

Sincerely

b-6

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area.

mick

P.S. Many Supporters

EXP. PROC.
~~40 MAR 2 1980~~ #40

TRUE COPY

03/05/80

Mr. William Webster
Director, FBI
Hoover Bldg., Washn. D.C.

Sir,

I was impressed by your answers to the Congressmen who were in my opinion (and many of my friends) browbeating you just because some of the Club members were caught with their hands in the till. The old saying, "You can't cheat (Sting) an honest man," still holds true. If they were not interested in the money, they should not have been there. Please remember Sir, that out here in Working Stiff land you and the FBI still have hard core supporters. Hang in there.

Sincerely

/s/ (1)
2)
3)

Mich.

P.S. Many Supporters

COPY:aga

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

ack 3/31/80
[Signature]

[Redacted]

MICH.

encl

973

167

Pto/ack

March 5, 1980

OUTSIDE SOURCE

[REDACTED] CA

Dear Mr. Webster
Public Response Re Abscam
I had the opportunity to see portions of your testimony on Abscam before Peter Rodino's committee on television last night.

It was my impression that you were being attacked and that the integrity of the FBI was seriously questioned by the kind of interrogation that took place. Was it the purpose of the Committee to elicit information regarding the methods used and the purposes served by your investigation? I seriously doubt that and I add that I believe they were entitled to nothing more at this time. Formality would require that we address these Congressman as "The Honorable" Mr. so and so but the only impression I could get was that they were

MAR 12 1980

08/09/80

63-17541-170
74-29

16 MAR 11 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

trying to show that "there is honor among thieves" and they were determined to rescue those thieves among them.

I do not like the legal shackles that have been put upon the FBI and other Law Enforcement Agencies. Every conceivable right and protection is given to the criminal today, and to the innocent victim, none. You have done a superb job to build a case within such a restrictive framework of laws that will stand up in our Courts that are so severely biased in favor of "every possible right to be made available to the criminal". I think the Federal Exclusionary Evidence Rule, for example, has operated to imperil the survival of

of our law-abiding society and provide unthinkable refuge to the criminals we all are menaced by.

I approve of the methods you have used in Abiskam. This was the only realistic way to operate to get inside the criminal conspiracy. I think you have taken every possible procedure to protect your investigation from the taint of entrapment and to meet the current requirements of the Courts.

You have my wholehearted approval of your methods, purposes and actions in conducting the Abiskam investigation. I believe you are a truly fine man to head the F.B.I. Congratulations on a good job, and I hope you continue to do these probing investigations.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6-6

[REDACTED]

Ca

[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

March 5, 1980

Dear Mr. Webster

I had the opportunity to see portions of your testimony on Abskam before Peter Rodino's committee on television last night.

It was my impression that you were being attacked and that the integrity of the FBI was seriously questioned by the kind of interrogation that took place. Was it the purpose of the Committee to elicit information regarding the methods used and the purposes served by your investigation? I seriously doubt that and I add that I believe they were entitled to nothing more at this time. Formality would require that we address these Congressman as "The Honorable" Mr so and so but the only impression I could get was that they were trying to show that "there is honor among thieves" and they were determined to rescue those thieves among them.

I do not like the legal shackles that have been put upon the FBI and other Law Enforcement Agencies. Every conceivable right and protection is given to the criminal today, and to the innocent victim, none. You have done a superb job to build a case within such a restrictive framework of laws that will stand up in our courts that are so severely biased in favor of "every possible right to be made available to the criminal." I think the Federal Exclusionary Evidence Rule, for example, has operated to imperil the survival of our law-abiding society and provide unthinkable refuge to the criminals we all are menaced by.

I approve of the methods you have used in Abskam. This was the only realistic way to operate to get inside the criminal conspiracy. I think you have taken every possible procedure to protect your investigation from the taint of entrapment and to meet the current requirements of the Courts.

You have my wholehearted approval of your methods, purposes and actions in conducting the Abskam investigation. I believe you are a truly fine man to head the F.B.I. Congratulations on a good job, and I hope you continue to do these probing investigations.

Sincerely,

TRUE COPY

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

COPY:dkg

TRUE COPY

March 5, 1980

Representative Peter Rodino
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rodino:

This evening I watched some of the proceedings of the committee of which you are Chairman and which is currently looking into ABSCAM. I must admit I am not in the least surprised to find that most of what I heard seemed to be concerned with "entrapment" and "leaks".

First, I would like to address the so called problem regarding "leaks". This certainly isn't new and on many occasions "leaks" originate right in Congress itself. I'd say that the only reason for such a flap at this time is that the "leak" originated outside Congress!

Next, let's look at "entrapment". You who are elected to offices in government, and in fact, all who are in government should and must be above any sort of dealings which have the slightest aroma of illegality. If you are smart enough to hold such lofty positions, you must be smart enough to keep clear of situations such as ABSCAM. In all my life I've never heard of anyone who is innocent yelling "entrapment". Entrapment to me means, "I've been caught and now I want a way out"! Am I far from wrong?

Some people ask why some politicians would even get involved with something such as ABSCAM in the first place. My thinking is that it's very simple. Why not? What could happen to them? In the past not much if anything happened to a member of Congress who's been caught "in the act".

This leads me to ask one question of you. In all your years in the government, how many Representatives or Senators who have been caught in illegal dealings have been punished. Oh, please don't tell me about reprimands and censures. My Mother did that and more to me for putting my hand in the cookie jar. I mean punished, such as losing their seat or actually going to jail. I would think you'd not have to think too much about this as no doubt the answer would be very, very short. One, maybe two? And how many deserve being "banished" at the very least?

If you wonder why the American people seem to be losing faith in our "leaders" I can tell you. When a guy steals from a gas station he's a criminal. When he steals from the government, if he's in Congress he gets a reprimand. Diggs, Richmond, Flynt and Sikes are a few names that come to mind offhand who have not been entirely ethical to say the least and what's happened to them.

So let's start talking about honesty, not "entrapment."

Yours very truly,

Hawaii

63-17541-
ENCLOSURE

172

March 6, 1980

Mr. William Webster, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation OUTSIDE SOURCE
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Webster:

Public Response Re Abscam

Enclosed is a letter which I have sent to Chairman Rodino with copies to other committee members. I thought you might find it of interest.

I would like to go on record as being in full support of the F.B.I. in the ABSCAN case. While it would have been nice to see Congress get behind the F.B.I. I am not that naive to expect this support. Congress has never been hard on it's own members who have gone astray.

My hope is that the F.B.I. will remain a strong organization which in my opinion does an outstanding job.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature block]

Hawaii

b6

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

XP-PROC.
MAR 12 1980

(Handwritten initials)

#204/20/80

63-17561-422
4-29
MAR 11 1980

ENCLOSURE

*4/14/80
ack
NB:rah*

68 MAY 28 1980

ppd/mt

Dear Director Webster:

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Public Response Re. Abscam

I applaud the direction and guidance given the FBI under your control.

ABSCAM is an outstanding Sting. What future Stings do you plan?

Do you think the FBI will falter when your term is up as director?

Who instructs or proposes future Sting operations? Would the Bureau

consider suggestions from the citizens or from the Exec Branch only?

If so please note below:

1. investigate into the military services for drug and officer graft & corruption.
2. investigate diplomats in the US as spies or contacts
3. investigate Carter Administration in wake of foreign affair blunder as Afganistan, Cuba , UN vote etc.
4. investigate East Coast syndicate rings and drug market.
5. investigation of armed service judicial legal abuses to enlisted personnel.
6. investigate with support from DoE, energy mismanagement within other agencies.
7. the illegal alien traffic from Mexico to: Florida, Texas, California etc.
8. investigate into Civiletti for "unauthorized" news leaks on ABSCAM which your bureau did a super job.

On the military aspect of future if any investigations, I served in the

US Navy from Sept 1975- Sept 1979.

Drug traffic and dealing is quite prevalent within the Navy.

[REDACTED]

68 MAY 29 1980

EXP. PROC. 40 MAR 18 1980

63-17561-174

4-29
FBI MAR 12 1980

b6

The Navy judicial system seems to have little effect on the trade. Morale is low, "mind games" & backstabbing occur daily between enlisted and officer ranks. I believe officers some, totally abuse thier positions in regards to enlisted treatment etc. With Carters stand on the Persian Gulf, such an investigation should be warranted with support from comm members on the Judcial Comm. I believe an FBI undercover investigation would reveal much to the public and press about the status of the Navy. Ive written my representative on this issue, he is Rep Carlos Moorhead. If your going to "pull" big time investigations, why not check out the Navy.

We I mean I as an enlisted had no "legal rights" if prosecuted not even Miranda writs. Is that legal? The Navy could be a "front" for using illegal aliens within its ranks via forged documents and mismangement on the Navys part. Why hasnt the FBI, ATF and DEA combine operations and look the Navy over real good investigating flag officers to lowly recruits from boot camp? Concealing a few agents as enlisted personnel and officers using hidden mikes and mini TV cameras could reveal much. Locales for investigation: 1. San Diego naval sta, Corononado NAS, Naval Sta Norfolk, Little Creek, ships: USS [REDACTED]

USS Belleau Wood LHA-3. Plus squadron commands and fleet commands.

" No stone should be left unturned".

Communist agents portraying officers say in the submarine force could get info on the new Trident FBM system or newer submarines.

Key agents of the Communists could be aides to the JCS.

RECEIVED
FBI
MAR 12 11 11 AM '80

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
MAR 12 2 50 PM '80

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
MAR 12 4 39 PM '80

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

I realize this may sound like a throwback to the old McCarthy era of the early 1950s, but with the way Carter is running things and the chaos and confusion linked to it, I can easily see someone or some group "implanting" themselves into a key position. Isn't that how you would react if taking on some mobsters- use or create chaos and move into position?

I know I would. I'd have a major news photographer tail along when an investigation links some big major key figure in the military.

If our tax dollars are being abused in the military, can't we at least find out? We common civilians cannot find out- we neither have the facilities or contacts, the FBI does. Here's more info on the Navy:

1. drug traffic: enlisted from E-1-3 or 4 most common, but don't overlook E-6 and above also.
2. Navy is racial or personnel racial anti which could cause civil rights violations and also a large part of the drug trade from minority enlisted.
3. shipboard sanitation, administration management, safety.
4. enlisted morale and equal justice.

These things exist. The decay of the Navy and other military services at a time when Russia is gaining to gain the world is a true threat to our national security. What else could it be?

Look at the abuse Marine Corp recruits get at their boot camp? or the recruiting quotas of the services since the fall of Vietnam in 1975.

Are those areas worth investigating?

Problems do exist which could hamper the investigations if done:

1. enlisted dissidents suppressed by superiors using threats to enlisted: this is quite common.
2. Navy administration mismanagement/ paperwork handling.
3. superiors order "losing" report chits or altering enlisted performance evaluations on enlisted the superiors dislike.
4. peer pressure from enlisted onto enlisted.

Those 4 are that I see the only obstacles to any investigation.

Please feel free to copy this and show it to Rep Moorhead.

Im sure HE would like to comply or give his opinion on the topic.

I would dubb this operation: NAVALSCAM or NAVALSTING ALPHA.

Rep Moorhead has my list of grievences against the Navy, contact him for it.

What can you lose? Other obsc obstacles could exist that I didnt cover.

If the FBI is the "watchdog", please watch the US Navy before it sinks due to moral and legal decay aside leadership decay.

Its Your Navy also. I would have a direct link to the members of the Judicial Comm. during this operation. Id contact for interviews:

1. retired enlisted personnel
2. recently discharged personnel.
3. Vietnam vets aside active duty personnel.

Our Navy is the only way to express American presence in the Mid East area, without it our presence and our oillines are cut due to Soviet naval forces.

The investigation should take years with major leads breaking to the press or the leads being mediaized after the investigation.

Targets of investigation:

1. CNO & staff officers and aide s
2. Sec of the Navy office
3. agencies within the Navy Dept for support
4. fleet commands
5. squadron commands
6. shore base commands
7. ships
8. the Pentagon role within the Navy structure
9. naval legal-justice system
10. shipboard environment
11. overseas bases
12. enlisted morale, well being etc.
13. present Administration handling of the defense policy etc.
14. naval training, recruit training, education
15. enlisted grievances minor and major
16. naval supply system: check into excess and waste within system.
17. Navy relations with civilian shipyards and support facilities.

The investigation should also be done in an historical "light" with interviews with WW2 and Korea era Navy vets to have a coorelation with todays enlisted mans comments etc. Each of the above has a bearing on where the Navy is today. Men not machines run those ships, when the men are abused mentally, sometimes physically constantly do you expect to have a full fledged force ready to sail. NO.

I am willing to be interviewed on my life in the Navy just to get the ball rolling. Just send me the questionnaire forms etc. and I'll fill em out and return them. The Navy still operates timeline wise in the 1950s, many ships in the Navy are from the 1950s and yet the Soviets buildup more new ships each year. Reasons for the investigation are as follows:

1. "beef up" the enlisted morale etc. within the Navy
2. slow drug traffic
3. streamline the naval administration process
4. protect the rights- civil, legal of enlisted personnel from E-1-3
5. alert the public to the conditions within the Navy
6. save tax dollar waste of the Navy
7. settle long time enlisted grievances
8. re organize the Officer Corp.
9. strengthen enlistments and retention within the service of enlisted.
10. decommissioning of older ships at a more rapid rate than presently.

The above 10 is what the FBI could uncover or "square away" within the Navy.

Are the above 10 worth an investigation aside the threat to our oil lines? What is then? With a team of lawyers who specialize in military law-civilian, criminal law, news personnel and teams of agents and massive use of active duty enlisted informants, the job can get done.

Another contact source for interview is [REDACTED] of the USS Belleau Wood LHA-3 homeport San Diego. I know hell tell you guys an awful lot about conditions within the Navy. Reports of the investigation should go the following:

1. major news media
2. CNO
3. House-Senate Armed Services Comm.
4. House-Senate Judicial Comm. (legal aspects only)
5. NATO hqs. I feel our allies have a right to know if we the US have the capability to defend them at sea. Do you agree?

If its any consolation, more than 80% of the enlisted in the Navy are white minority. The Navy needs to be "purged" of abuses like ABSCAM did to Congress, it purged 6 greedy Congressmen to the surface for exposure. Should the Navy be different? If you can tarnish 6 Congressmen, why not about 80 admirals or captains along with some commanders? So they wear a uniform big deal whats "rank". Also if Watergate can "tarnish" Nixon and ABSCAM 6 Congressmen, imagine the effect within the Navy. Mind boggling.

Polls and questionnaires should be given out to the populace discussing the military and or Navy for citizen feedback into this investigation.

Other agencies to coordinate investigation:

1. DEA- drugs only and related issues
 2. ATF- check on illegal weapons, liquor usage
 3. your bureau
 4. EPA: cover environmental aspects of ships and shipyards and shore bases.
- I just want the citizens to be aware of the conditions within our government that need radical changes to survive into the 21st century and beyond. 1980 is the year for these massive "overhauls". What counter arguments do you propose to NOT investigate the Navy? Whose loss would it be if not investigated?

With agents working in the central Pentagon records center aside key agents placed on ships as: division officers, staff officers, chief petty officers, first class petty officers one could find much about life in the Navy. Ships to be investigated would be from: small patrol boats to the biggest carriers aside submarines.

Imagine the drug trade on a carrier like the Nimitz. . .
Heres another angle for an investigation: shipboard security. . .

I believe with the decay in the Navy, that terrorists could board the ship or a ship and hold the ship hostage while in a foreign port. . .

Consider say 1/4 of the crew on liberty status and the duty section on board, few men on the ship thus an easy take over. . .

I believe it can be done. If terrorists can seize the US Embassy in Iran or can gundown naval personnel in Puerto Rico, why not take over a naval vessel? Using ~~fake~~ forged IDs, uniforms and concealed weapons I firmly

believe it can be done. On my ship the [REDACTED] it held mock security drills and the ship failed several times to stop the intruders. . .

Think about it. Is this nation willing to risk a take over of a naval

man o war by 3rd world Communist backed terrorist group?

Please share my ideas with others in your field. . .

The investigation could find security "leaks" in the system that a terrorist group could use. A duty section on a ship only consists of about 100-200

personnel overall from all ship departments. Please note ideas below for other investigations:

1. investigate UN diplomats as terrorist contacts or Communist sympathizers.
2. investigate all Iranians in the US. . .
3. investigate Border Patrol system and find its flaws with illegal aliens.
4. investigate Hollywood film scandals in regards to illegal activities and consumer affairs (movie prices etc.)
5. investigate into NASA and other industrial firms for sabotage of the Space Shuttle by Soviet spies.

On the first page I mentioned to investigate Civiletti, my reason is
HE is the head of the Justice Dept thus like any high official
"opened" to bribes, kickbacks and payoffs so I propose an investigation
of him and his office. Besides the name Civiletti sounds Mafia.
Is it any wonder our legal and justice system suck with some big whop
"Mafiaoso" at the helm of the Justice Dept. Tell me if Im wrong, prove it
too me. I feel anyone in such a position as Secretary of ---- and his or
her key aides is just as open to bribes, kickbacks and payoffs.
ABSCAM is my case in point. Back to drugs, Norfolk and San Diego are 2
real good hot spots for the drug market to the military market.
Back to the Navy investigation, with interviews with vets from WW2, Korea
and Vietnam it would give an overall view of the decay before and since in
the military defense system. NO ONE in the system is Immune.
No position should be sacrificed to investigate the system.
NO ONE SHOULD BE ABOVE THE LAW. If so than justice is not equal.
ABSCAM & Watergate are my cases in point. I cannot tolerate total
stupidity and incompetence in the Navy aside in other agencies.
The Navy prosecutes and harras ses its enlisted personnel putting on
unbelievable^A pressures which force: UAs, desertions in the ranks.
(Check on the desertion records and those UA) It would read quite High.
Thank you for your time. Please reply. Are you going to investigate
the system? The FBI would be the command group in this investigation.

Sincerely

6-6



PS: examine the TIME magazine article on the Navy in the issue with the cover marked ATTACK ON THE NAVY. Consult the Navy Times paper for quotas on recruits into the Navy. Also Armed Forces Journal has an article on the Navy. Plus many newspaper articles on Marine Corp recruit abuses, recruitment quotas for military etc. These publications are my support. But I look at it in the human sense. Lives wasted or being wasted in a ~~bad~~ system that proliferates the use of drugs and fighting is not an Honor to Serve. Disgrace any officer you can without Honor. Thier: cover ups, inaction or slow action also create tension in the Navy. Officers from O-1 to O-7. ~~the~~ Enlisted are the real "backbone" in the military, without them you can forget the Persian Gulf and stand by to give it to Russia.

Wrote this

Heard heard

6-6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Exec AD Inv.	_____
Exec AD Adm.	_____
Exec AD LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

FBI/DOJ

[REDACTED] b-6

March 6, 1980

Congressman Floyd Fithian
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: FBI Abscam Investigation

Dear Mr. Fithian,

OVER THE FENCE
Public Response
to
AbScam

Congress should immediately stop interfering with the FBI's Abscam investigation and suspend all federal salaries and monies being paid to those under investigation.

I am at a complete loss as to how the House Judiciary Subcommittee can feel that the FBI "sucked-in innocent congressmen." Those involved appear to be as innocent as Charles Manson.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED] b-6

cc: Senator Brich Bayh
Senator Richard Lugar
FBI Director William Webster
Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti

63-17561-176

William Webster, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
J. Edgar Hoover Building
Washington, D.C. 20535

ack
4/1/80
JLB:KAS

4/10/80
MAR 11 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

March 7, 1980

Representative Peter W. Rodino, Jr.
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
970 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Public
Responses
Re
AbSCAM

Exec.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Insp.	
Intell.	
Lab.	
Legal Coun.	
Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.	
Director's Sec'y	

Dear Mr. Rodino:

It comes as no surprise, but is disgraceful nonetheless, that the House Judiciary Committee would now try to impose controls on the FBI's methods and/or targets of investigation. I wonder whether this is prompted by a true concern for individuals' constitutional rights or by the fact that the results of some of these investigations are proving a little too embarrassing for some of our public "leaders".

Only men and women of the strongest character, able to resist the many temptations which political power occasions, should be allowed to remain in positions through which the lives of so many are profoundly influenced.

The sooner our elected officials understand that they are not above the law, the sooner they will start acting in this country's best interest instead of their own self-interest.

My comment to the FBI: Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

①

40 MAR 12 1980
#10

* cc: Mr. William Webster, Director of the FBI

63-17561-778

Ack

4/1/80

NB: lmb

b-6

4/10/80

PA/ables

nml

147

MAY 23 1980

2) [Redacted]
3) [Redacted] NJ

Exec AD Inv.	___
Exec AD Adm.	___
Exec AD LES	___
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	___
Crim. Inv.	___
Ident.	___
Intell.	___
Laboratory	___
Legal Coun.	___
Plan. & Insp.	___
Rec. Mgnt.	___
Tech. Servs.	___
Training	___
Public Affs. Off.	___
Telephone Rm.	___
Director's Sec'y	___

FBI/DOJ

2) [Redacted]
3) [Redacted] Alabama

March 7, 1980

OUTSIDE SOURCE

William H. Webster
Director FBI
U.S. Dept of Justice
Pennsylvania Av. at
9th St. N. W.
Washington D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Webster:

Public Response Re Abscam

Enclosed is a copy of a letter that we recently sent to Senator Adlai Stevenson. We want you to know that we completely endorse the Abscam Operation. We hope that the Attorney General will prosecute every dishonest official that he can find.

We must get the criminals out of government.

More power to the FBI.

Respectfully,

[Redacted Signature]

b-6

EXP. PROC.
40 MAR 12 1980

63-17561-180

4-29
MAR 12 1980

ENCLOSURE

ack
4/11/80
NB: lmb

68 MAY 28 1980

P190/11664

Alabama

February 11, 1980

b-6

Honorable? Adlai Stevenson
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

C
O
P
Y
We (my wife, friends and I) saw you on television and listened to your comments on the "Abscam Operation." It is apparent that you have a very strange and uncommon conception of what is proper conduct for a United States Congressman.

It is hardly conceivable that a man of your intelligence could believe a Congressman can commit a criminal or unethical act and be immune from investigation and prosecution. Do you really believe that it is not "proper" that the FBI should step in to protect the interests of the citizens of this country, and the reputations of those members of Congress who are honest?

Doesn't it worry you a little that the Representative from Michigan, despite his conviction for embezzlement, still sits in Congress and uses the word "Honorable" in front of his name? Was the cover-up of Watergate any less ethical than the cover-up of Chappaquiddick?

Come down off your high horse. After all, a U. S. Senator is only an elected representative of the people of his state. He is not a "Lord of the Manor" and he does not exercise the "Droit de Seigneur."

Honesty is the prime requirement in a Congressman. Otherwise the government becomes a farce.

Yours truly (no respectfully).

b-6

63-17561-180
ENCLOSURE

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

OUTSIDE SOURCES

Public Response Re: AB 30AM

Go after those
congressmen. B9?

Give them what
they deserve

[REDACTED] vchc

b-6

EXP. PROC. #40
40 MAR 10 1988

DE-14

63-17561-18043-17561

7/15

7 JUL 1988

66AUG 7 1980
[Signature]

*Wait
no address.
Pp 1/11*

[Signature]

Exec. AD-Inv. _____
 Exec. AD-Adm. _____
 Exec. AD-LES _____
 Asst. Dir.:
 Adm. Servs. _____
 Crim. Inv. _____
 Ident. _____
 Intell. _____
 Lab. _____
 Rec. _____
 Tech. _____
 Training _____
 Public Affs. Off. _____
 Telephone Rm. _____
 Director's Sec'y _____

From
 [Redacted]
 Texas

b6

Public 3/11/80

Mr. William Webster, Response
 Director, FBI
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Webster: (11/3SCAM)

This is an overdue, belated word to let you know that I heartily commend you and the Bureau for its aggressive activities in the "Abscam" and similar operations.

I have no patience whatever with people who beat their breasts about the horrors of "entrapment" and "seducing" public officials. Baloney! An honest man can't be entrapped. As an old police reporter I recall vividly that great truism the con men live by -- you can't work a big "scam" with an honest man.

You're going to get some real heat from the irate Congressmen who resent disclosures about the low quality, in general, of that august assemblage today, and from the liberal legal professional do-gooders -- I know I don't have to remind you of that. But I hope you will hang tough and call their every bluff. I am not one of those who presumes to speak for a lot of people, but I can assure you that virtually without exception every friend and acquaintance I have discussed this with are solidly behind the Bureau, and indeed are grateful to see some action to make life unsafe for corrupt officials. (I formed a great admiration for the Bureau in working with many of its people; my boss, [Redacted] is a former Agent; and [Redacted] now in Austin, is one of my friends. He's a [Redacted] product and we're proud of it!)

Cordially, 63-17561-1782
 [Redacted]

ack 4/1/80
 3/15/80
 JB

68 MAY 3 1980

EXP. PROC.
 40 MAR 14 1980 #40

b6

PAO/wh

96

DA's New Effort:

Zeroing In on Integrity

DALLAS NEWS
3-11-80

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade should have announced creation of his new public integrity task force with a great fanfare. It deserves one. Instead, *The News'* Christi Harlan discovered the new section in the DA's specialized crime division through a memo issued by Wade.

The section will review problems dealing with corruption of public officials, bribery and election code violations.

The past year has seen an increasing number of charges of corruption within

local governments. Dallas school district's problems have been well publicized, and both the city and county have had charges of corruption levied in their federal job-training programs. Also complaints about election irregularities have cropped up again.

As recent events have emphasized, there is an important role for Wade's new team. Maybe its very existence will help discourage some of the unacceptable conduct that Dallas has suffered in recent months.

63-1756V-182

ENCLOSURE

Public Response re. Abscam

Exec AD Adm.	
Exec AD Inv.	
Exec AD Leg.	
Exec AD Mgt.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Insp.	
Intell.	
Lab.	
Legal Coun.	
Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.	

Dear Mr. Webster -
I think you are doing an outstanding job and ~~its~~ we are long past due on getting to the corruption of our Police, Congressmen, etc. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely

Washington, D.C.

REC-110
MAR 12 1980
6-2

#40

63-17561-784

26
29 MAR 1980

M
68 MAY 23 1980

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

TRUE COPY

Dear Mr. Webster

I think you are doing an outstanding job and we are long past due on getting to the corruption of our police, Congressmen, etc. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

1) [REDACTED]
 2) [REDACTED]
 3) WAC [REDACTED]

b6

ack
 3/20/80
 AB: KMS

COPY:dkg

TRUE COPY

112

17/10/11

OUTSIDE SOURCE

March 12, 1980.

Mr. William Webster, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

public response
Ab SCAM

Exec. AD-Adm. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

Dear Mr. Webster

I would like to extend my congratulations to you and your organization on the success of your recent "Sting" operations. I believe such activities are necessary to protect the interests of the people and in this vain I believe that a thorough investigation of the relations between the major American oil companies and the elected and non elected officials of this country would either confirm or clear doubts from the minds of many of our citizens as to the integrity of some of our officials as it regards the subject of energy. Many people in this country feel that the oil companies exert an abnormal amount of influence over the makers and executors of policy in our federal government. A good clean, thorough investigation could clear up this situation if it exists.

Again, my congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

Very truly yours

[Redacted signature block]

2)
[Redacted]
Michigan

63-17561-186

4/9/80
15 MAR 14 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

93

SK

12/1/80

EXP. PROC.
40 MAR 14 1980

Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

W

Dear Sirs! OUTSIDE SOURCE Mar 13, 1980

A word of encouragement from a
 citizen who cares about our great country.
 The disclosure of Abscam case and
Public Response Re Abscam
 other under current investigation ~~involving~~
 Rackets show the fruits of labor the
 FBI men ^{Carry on} against big-time crooks.
 Keep up the good work!
 Respectfully,

 S.D. 

EXP. PROC.
 40 MAR 21 1980
 # 50

(C)

63-17561-188

4/10/80
 23 MAR 21 1980

68 MAY 28 1980

W

TRUE COPY

Mar. 13, 1980

Exec. AD-Inv.	_____
Exec. AD-Adm.	_____
Exec. AD-LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Public Affs. Off.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

Dear Sirs:

A word of encouragement from a citizen who cares about our great country. The Disclosure of Abscam case and other under cover investigations insurance rackets show the fruits of labor the FBI men carry on against big-time crooks.

Keep up the good work!

Respectfully,

1) [REDACTED] b6
2) [REDACTED]
3) [REDACTED] S.D. [REDACTED]

COPY:dkg

ask
3-31-80
NBI hms

TRUE COPY

TH 4

PRO/MW